

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: TOI, et al.

Serial No.: 10/825,097

Filed: April 16, 2004

Title: AUTOMATIC LIQUID HANDLING SYSTEM

Art Unit: 1743

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop: DD  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 10, 2006

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a non-US documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action.

To the extent that the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language translation Abstract of the foreign document and the discussion of the document in the specification.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement and the document listed be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this

paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (1297.43787X00),  
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

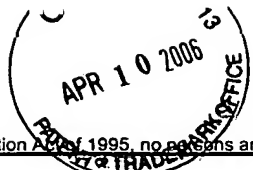
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



---

Melvin Kraus  
Registration No. 22,466

MK/jla  
1300 North Seventeenth Street  
Suite 1800  
Arlington, VA 22209  
Telephone: (703) 312-6600  
Fax: (703) 312-6666



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/825,097
		Filing Date	4/16/2004
		First Named Inventor	TOI et al
		Art Unit	1743
Sheet 1 of 1	Examiner Name		
		Attorney Docket Number	1297.43787X00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 11-295323	10/99	Higuchi Akira	Abstract	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.